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ACTION EUR-01

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00
	DODE-00	EB-01	HA-09	H-01	INR-00	IO-19	LAB-04
	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01
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	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-17	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00
	RPE-01	/073W					

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R 222239Z FEB 93
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2339
INFO AMEMBASSY KIGALI

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 01094

DECAPTIONED

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E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PHUM, PREL, CA, RW, XA
SUBJECT: BROTHER-IN-LAW OF RWANDAN PRESIDENT ARRESTED IN
MONTREAL

1. (U) SUMMARY: PROTAIS ZIGIRANYIRAZO, BROTHER-IN-LAW
OF RWANDA'S PRESIDENT, WAS ARRESTED FEBRUARY 19 FOR
ALLEGEDLY MAKING DEATH THREATS AGAINST CANADIAN-BASED
HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS FROM HIS HOMELAND. AN EXTERNAL
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AFFAIRS SPOKESMAN TOLD THE PRESS FEBRUARY 18 THAT EXTAFF
IS INVESTIGATING ZIGI/ANYIRAZO'S ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN
HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN RWANDA, BUT EXTAFF'S RWANDA DESK
OFFICER TOLD POLOFF FEBRUARY 22 THAT "IT IS TOO SOON TO
SPECULATE ON WHETHER WE MIGHT ASK ZIGIRANYIRAZO TO LEAVE
CANADA." MEANWHILE, ZIGIRANYIRAZO, WHO PERIODICALLY
STUDIES POLITICAL SCIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEBEC IN
MONTREAL, HAS BEEN RELEASED ON BAIL. END SUMMARY.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY:
WILLIAM J. GEHRON

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RWANDAN PRESIDENT'S BROTHER-IN-LAW ARRESTED

2. (U) PROTAIS ZIGIRANYIRAZO, BROTHER-IN-LAW OF RWANDAN PRESIDENT JUVENAL HABYARIMANA, WAS ARRESTED IN MONTREAL FEBRUARY 19 FOR ALLEGEDLY UTTERING DEATH THREATS AGAINST CANADIAN-BASED HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS FROM HIS HOMELAND. A SPOKESMAN FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TOLD THE "MONTREAL GAZETTE" THAT ZIGIRANYIRAZO HAS BEEN LIVING IN MONTREAL "PERIODICALLY" FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS, AND ATTENDS POLITICAL SCIENCE CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEBEC IN MONTREAL. THE EXTAFF OFFICIAL ADDED THAT ALTHOUGH ZIGIRANYIRAZO IS TRAVELLING ON A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT, HE IS NOT ACCREDITED TO CANADA AND DOES NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY. ZIGIRANYIRAZO HAS BEEN RELEASED ON \$1,000.00 BAIL.

3. (C) CANADIAN AND BELGIAN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS ACCUSE ZIGIRANYIRAZO OF ORCHESTRATING DEATH SQUAD ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY AGAINST THE BAGOGWE SUBGROUP OF THE TUTSIS. AN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SPOKESMAN TOLD THE
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"MONTREAL GAZETTE" FEBRUARY 18 THAT HIS DEPARTMENT IS "LOOKING INTO" THE ALLEGATIONS. BARRY PARKINSON, EXTAFF'S RWANDA DESK OFFICER, TOLD POLOFF FEBRUARY 22 THAT "THERE ARE SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS CHARGED...WE ARE WEIGHING THE AVAILABLE EVIDENCE, BUT IT IS TOO SOON TO SPECULATE ON WHETHER WE MIGHT ASK ZIGIRANYIRAZO TO LEAVE."

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